

Elk Point REVIEW

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Administrative Assistants
Much appreciated

Page 5

Little Mermaid
A huge hit with audience

Page 6

Minor Hockey celebrates
...Page 10



Vicki Brooker photo

Shake hands and come out campaigning

Progressive Conservative candidate Darrell Younghans and Wildrose candidate David Hanson shook hands at Elk Point Town Council's meeting last week, as both set off to continue their non-stop round of campaign commitments. The two, along with N.D.P. candidate Catherine Harder, are scheduled to air more of their views when they take part in an all-candidates forum on Wednesday, April 29 at the Elk Point Seniors' Recreation Centre.

Election candidates meet with town council

VICKI BROOKER
Review Staff

Two of the three candidates hoping to become the MLA for Lac La Biche – St. Paul – Two Hills in the May 5 election visited Elk Point town council last Monday, and gave their views on three questions posed by Mayor Parrish Tung.

Wildrose candidate David Hanson, who said he was "reluctantly talked into running," was born and raised in the Two Hills area, and after a number of years out of the area, returned to St. Paul and district 22 years ago. The farmer and oil patch worker said he is "concerned how things have been done" in government over the past 20 years. He plans to "work hard, stand up for the little guy, dig my heels in, roll up my sleeves and get it done."

The Wildrose campaign, he noted, focuses on the budget and attacking excessive spending, especially with Alberta Health Services.

The mayor's first question was regarding health care services, and Hanson, who has a daughter who is a registered nurse and a son in medical school, said he feels that rural hospitals and schools are "determining factors" for people choosing a new home town.

The second question dealt with Municipal Sustainability Initiative (MSI) funding, which Hanson said he "absolutely supports." Wildrose's "10/10" plan for municipal funding, he added, gives municipalities "stable funding with no strings attached."

(Continued on Page 2)

County passes 'cautious' 2015 budget

JANICE HUSER
Review Contributor

Residents of the County of St. Paul will see a slight one to two per cent increase on this taxes this year, as council passed its 2015 budget on April 14, along with approving this year's mill rates, which will stay the same for residential and farmland properties.

The 2015 budget shows a \$109,090 surplus, a little lower than the anticipated \$135,950 projected in the 2014 budget. Taxes will increase by about two per cent for non-residential properties.

"We decided to scale back," said Reeve Steve Upham, adding, council wants to be careful over the next couple of years because of the economy, and

instead of focusing on large projects, the county will focus on maintenance.

While putting this year's budget together, Upham says "we were a bit cautious about it going in," and although the projected surplus is small, "it is a plus sign."

According to County of St. Paul CAO Sheila Kitz, assessment has seen growth of 13 per cent overall, with much of that being attributed to the Pengrowth project taking place on the east side of the municipality.

There was a three per cent residential growth in the market, and also a three per cent growth in new homes within the county. There was also a three per cent increase in linear assessment.

Although Upham was pleased to see

the county continues to grow, he also notes that assessments can go down just as easily as they went up.

Many residents will see a bit of an increase when they receive their tax notices because of the assessment increases. The county also has a new assessment team in place, which may result in a change to some properties' assessments. An open house will be held in early June and residents with questions or complaints are encouraged to attend, said Kitz.

Budget increases

Total expenditures in the 2015 budget sit at \$40.2 million, which expenditures in 2014 were budgeted at \$36.6 million. Revenue in 2015 is set at \$40.3 million, compared to just under \$36.5 million

in 2014.

According to the budget summary, the administration costs will increase in 2015 by 7.81 per cent. A financial intern has accepted a position with county, and the county has also hired on previous intern Kyle Attanasio as a permanent employee. The budget was also increased because of the county's contract for assessment services.

Some of the administration department's priorities for 2015 include moving forward with its GIS. The county plans to add more vehicles onto the automated vehicle locating system, and also wants to make GIS available to the public, although that will require more "robust high-speed (internet) access."

(Continued on Page 6)

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Changes coming for county campgrounds

JANICE HUSER
Review Contributor

Locals will soon be able to book their stalls at county-run campgrounds, as the warm weather and May long weekend inch closer.

But, there will be some changes to when users can book stalls, and how they will be charged for those stalls. Due to some people abusing the system, campers will only be allowed to book camp stalls for the current and following month. For example, someone booking a stall in early May, can only book for May or June; while someone booking in late July can only book for July or August.

It is not a 60-day window, said Assistant CAO Tim Mahdiuk. He added that staff is aware there could be a "hiccup" in the new system due to how August long weekend falls.

The change will hopefully give people "more opportunity" to book stalls at county-run parks. In the past, some people would call early in the season and

book all the popular weekends, then cancel closer to the date, or not show up, which results in less opportunity for others.

Another change to increase people's commitment to their reservations is that when a booking is made, the person's credit card will be charged for the full amount of days being booked, rather than just the first day.

A cancellation policy still exists, and in that case, users will only pay a one-day administration charge.

There will be no change in rates this year at county parks and work is expected to begin this year to rectify the power situation at Westcove Park.

The first day of camping at municipal campgrounds will be May 14, with parks closing on Labour Day, Sept. 7.

Crime Reduction

Steps are being taken to establish a Crime Reduction Committee that would include not only RCMP and the County of St. Paul, but also other municipalities and First Nations communities in the area.

"If this is going to work, we need to have all partners at the table," said Coun. Glen Ockerman.

The idea for a Crime Reduction Committee stemmed from a request from the St. Paul RCMP's Staff Sergeant. Those involved are hoping to have a first meeting later this month.

Ball Diamonds

If the county is successful in obtaining a grant, residents who enjoy playing baseball in the area will have another option, as work could be done to the ball diamonds at Westcove Park. (Continued on Page 3)

Council

(Continued from Front Page)

Mayor Tung said council was very concerned with the future of MSI, as its discontinuation would be "very scary for our projects."

The third question dealt with elected school and health boards, which Hanson said he feels are "the best ones to make decisions" on local priorities.

Progressive Conservative candidate Darrell Youngmans needed no introduction to council, and said he was pleased to be invited to give his input on election issues. He noted that the transition from school board to provincial politics would involve "a lot of learning, but my job would be to listen and to take your concerns to the legislature."

Regarding health care, Youngmans said, "People like what they're hearing from the Rural Health Review Committee study. They've got to make sure it works. The current system just doesn't work; hospitals need autonomy."

Funding for municipalities through MSI is important, Youngmans said, because "every town in Alberta has the same situations with water and sewer systems. We've got to concentrate on maintaining the infrastructure."

"Centralization isn't working," Youngmans commented regarding elected boards. "There's a lesson to be learned there."

Mayor Tung said that both the AUMA and AAMD and C are concerned with the extra funding that has been allotted to municipalities this year. "It's nice to have a bunch of money, but next year we'll be hard pressed to find money. I hope the next government will take a serious look at this, because municipalities can't go hungry."

Deputy Mayor Dwayne Yaremkevich noted that the grant for infrastructure studies in Elk

Point and Boyle is still part of the budget "and will give us a good idea" of what is ahead.

Town manager Myron Goyan said the town had one a similar study in house already, so had some idea, but welcomed the new viewpoint, and the upcoming study will become "a template for the rest of the province."

The mayor said that when the town gets the study results, council will do a five-year plan incorporating the needs.

Youngmans called the government study "encouraging. It backs up what you've done here."

Both candidates agreed that the short time frame for the provincial election is giving them "a tight schedule" for forums, with the campaign already a quarter over at that time.

Handi Bus subsidy

Council agreed to again provide \$2,000 from MSI operational funding to cover operating costs of the local handi bus. The town also covers costs of tires, servicing and insurance for the vehicle.

Bylaws

A bylaw to allow the town to back up the Elk Point Chamber of Commerce operating loan at Servus Credit Union for the coming year was given all three readings.

First reading was given to a rezoning bylaw that would change the zoning of a lot along Railway Ave. from R2 Residential to C1 Central Commercial.

No livestock in town

A request to keep a small number of chickens in a backyard coop in a residential area was quickly turned down by council, who felt "farm animals are out on the farm," and "not a supporter of keeping farm animals in town," due to noise, odor and potential for disease, although one councillor "would love to have chickens, but I would never do it in town."

The town's bylaw allows a homeowner to have a maximum of two dogs and three cats. Council later decided that the pertinent bylaw should be reviewed and clarified reflect the decision to exclude farm animals and to ensure this does not become an issue again in the future.

Tender review

Nine tenders for the two stages of 59th Ave extension and 11 tenders for the two phases of completion of the Centennial Residential Subdivision were up for council's review, with council given 45 days to award the project. Goyan reported on available funding sources. The discussion was tabled for further discussion in camera.

Truck, mower

Council approved a Public Works Committee recommendation to purchase a 2015 Ford F150 for \$30,838.76 and a John Deere diesel commercial mower for \$19,762.35.

Health Centre

Mayor Tung reported that the town's Physician and Staffing Recruitment and Retention Committee met with Alberta Health Services recently, and was told that there are more urgent needs for the Elk Point Health Care Centre than a portable x-ray unit that had been proposed as a fundraising project. AHS representatives indicated that there are currently no issues regarding staffing at the present time, and interviews are underway for two positions. "Cindy Harmata assured us that there has never been anything on the books to say the Health Care Centre would be closed," the mayor emphasized.

The makeup and parameters for the new regional health boards is not yet known, and nor are the boundaries, Mayor Tung noted.

He also said Elk Point's Emergency department is going through a national accreditation program in the near future.



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**Annual General
Meeting**

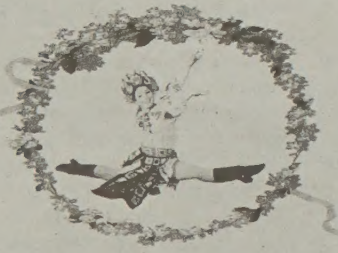
**Wednesday
April 22, 2015
7:30p.m.**

**Co-op Mall at
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**Coffee & dessert at
7:00p.m.**

Elk Point Ukrainian Dance Club

Spring Concert



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Sat June 13	John Zaboschuk	Bonnyville
Sat June 20	Estate of Nick Dutchak	Vermilion

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If your child is five years old, or will be five years old by February 29, 2016, they are eligible to attend Kindergarten for the 2015-2016 school year.

Please stop by the Elk Point Elementary School office for a registration from and/or attend the pre-registration meeting hosted by Mrs. Wood on Wed., April 22, 2015 at 5:30 pm in the Kindergarten classroom.

All new registration must present a birth certificate and an Alberta Health Care Card number to the school office before school commencement in September 2015.

**Education Week is May 4-8
"We Are Inspiring Education"**

Platform outlined at open house

VICKI BROOKER
Review Staff

It was standing room only at Progressive Conservative candidate Darrell Younghans' Elk Point campaign office on Thursday, when he held a late afternoon open house meet-and-greet.

Communications manager Rhonda LaFrance introduced him, saying he has "always been loyal to the PC party."

Younghans outlined his views on agriculture, and said one of the issues he has heard about thus far in the campaign is the increase in fuel tax. He would like to see input costs tied in to commodity values, and feels the fuel tax is "something we need to look at." He has also heard concerns from second and third generation farmers who find it hard to keep small family farms viable.

Health care is another major concern and "we know how important our hospital is. We have a good facility, we need to make sure it is kept that way." The recent Rural Health Review Committee report was "encouraging," in that input from across the province was taken into consideration, Younghans said, "and I talked to the premier about it. We need to make sure it is implemented, and it was reassuring to hear him agree."

Younghans believes seniors should have the right to age in their own communities, and is encouraged that there is a minister just for seniors. He also likes the commitment for substantial increases in restorative care beds, he said.

"You all know where I've been in education," he added, and said is also a believer in expanding post secondary education opportunities. "If we could have first and second year university at institutions like Portage College, it would make it more affordable for the area's young people to advance their education," he noted.

Younghans feels there is "a massive infrastructure deficit" because of the province's rapid growth, with up to 300 people per day moving into Alberta at one point, and putting a strain on everything from roads to hospitals. "We need to concentrate on maintenance. This town and others like it have water and sewer installed in the 1950s and 1960s and many of the province's bridges were built then, too. They need to be taken care of."

This was the third open house he has held to date, Younghans said, and the best attended, with "a good exchange of ideas. It's nice to see the support, and it's humbling to be here."

County

(Continued from Page 2)

The county is looking to use the open field at Westcove to redevelop the diamonds. According to Kyle Attanasio, director of legislative services with the county, there is a shortage of ball diamonds in the summer months.

Owlseye Road

A meeting with Muni-Corr has taken place to discuss changes to a road that runs through Owlseye.

"They're not opposed to the idea," said Kitz, adding, Muni-Corr representatives just want a better understanding of how close to road will run to the Iron Horse Trail. A visit to the site was being planned.

Garbage bin

Council deferred a decision regarding a request to supply the St. Paul Legion with a garbage bin, until administration gathers more information. In the past, the Legion shared the costs with a nearby business that has since moved, making it financially unfeasible for the Legion to keep the bin on its own.

The Legion asked the county to supply the group with a bin and a bi-weekly dump schedule, free of charge. The county's policies state the some exceptions can be made to allow groups outside of the county usage of county garbage bins, because the group is still affiliated with the county.

Although council wasn't against the idea, they decided to hold off on making a decision, as

some councillors felt the Town of St. Paul should help with the costs also.

Mallaig Legion

Council agreed to waive the development fees for work being done at the Mallaig Legion. The group is entering Phase 4 of a four-part project that saw the construction of a new portion of the hall, and now will see the demolition of an old portion of the building.

"It does benefit our community," said Ockerman. Coun. Frank Sloan made the motion to approve the request.

Funding requests

With the county's 2015 budget approved, a number of requests were either approved or denied. Requests from the St. Paul Golf course and from organizers of a new skate park in St. Paul, were denied.

A request from the St. Paul and District Foundation for the Arts was approved for \$5,000, and a request from the Heinsburg Community Club was also approved for \$12,000. A third request from the North Saskatchewan Watershed Alliance was approved for over \$3,000.

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Capsule Comments

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Research is rampant in trying to find new anti-cancer drugs. They are even looking at an old over-the-counter drug, cimetidine, as a possible candidate for cancer treatment. The drug has been around since the early 70s to treat peptic ulcers by decreasing acid production in the stomach.

Social media is helping people remember to take their medications. Work is being done on sending people text messages to remind them to take their meds. If they don't respond to the message, they receive a phone call. This was a research study but can be done within families to help an elderly person using an easy-to-use smart phone. It's easy to forget to take medications. Now it's easy to remind.

April is Cancer Month in Canada. Each year about 191,000 people are diagnosed with cancer and almost 40% will die from it. It bears remembering that about 70% of the deaths are from preventable factors: smoking, diet, obesity, sedentary lifestyles, alcohol and sun exposure.

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- **Agriculture** – advocates for the family farm and improved market access
- **Governance** – has successfully negotiated provincial projects for this constituency
- **Local decision-making** – believes in local boards, and giving voice to local health care concerns suggested in Rural Health Care Report
- **Diversification** – agrees with Prentice's plan to diversify agriculture, tourism and forestry – it's all in our constituency
- **Smart Fiscal Planning** – the Prentice Plan combines slight tax increases, moderate spending cuts and a reasonable amount of savings so that we don't go into recession

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EDITORIAL

Good right hands

This week we pay tribute to an asset that way too many of us take for granted the rest of the year, the administrative assistants that make our businesses run so much more smoothly.

Just think how much more we would have to do for ourselves if there was no one to answer the phone, fetch the mail, deal with the calls from salesmen hawking things we don't need, dispose of the junk mail, keep us on track by reminding us of appointments, and take messages when we're out of the office.

We'd be lost without them, and that's a fact.

Happy Administrative Professionals Week to the great people we depend on this and every other week!

Way Back When....

Library funding, Forts' concepts, well spacing

HERE'S THE NEWS THAT MADE THE HEADLINES OF THE LAKELAND REVIEW AND ELK POINT REVIEW FOR THE WEEK OF APRIL 21 IN...

1985

MLA John Drobot presented Mayor Ed Buck with a \$67,238 cheque toward construction of the new Elk Point Library. The Parks and Recreation committee met with Elk Point Lioness Club regarding Markstad Park, where they hoped to fund a playground and asked council to consider closing the street through the park and eliminate proposed overnight campsites in the park from their plan to make it safer for children.

1990

Elk Point RCMP, Rural Crime Watch, Elk Point Surface Rights Association and security specialists from Lloydminster and Edmonton joined to present a security seminar for area residents. Two concepts for the visitor reception centre at Fort George and Buckingham House historic site were displayed to the Historical Society, with members turning down a long, narrow structure spanning a small ravine in favour of a more conventional design.

1995

Local children rallied behind children half a world away that were victims of the Chernobyl nuclear power plant disaster, and fundraised to help a group from that area to come to the St. Paul area for a two-month visit. Elk Point Minor Hockey donated \$5,000 to the A. G. Ross Arena Debt Reduction Project.

2000

George Hahn was named Minor Hockey Coach of the Year at the awards banquet, where Tyson Slywka was presented with the Alex Kurash Memorial Trophy. Town council was not at all sure if they should give their approval to Union Pacific Resources' application for 10-acre spacing of oil wells close to town limits.

2005

Everything from infrastructure improvements to milk carton recycling was on the agenda as town council continued their efforts to make Elk Point a good, clean and fun community in which to live. The Elk Point Review was one of eight Canadian weekly newspapers in the 'Circulation up to 1249' category to win a blue ribbon in the Canadian Community Newspapers Association Better Newspapers Competition.

2010

Three local functions were approved by town council for financial support: Canada Day, Elk Point Emergency Services Golf Tournament and a benefit to assist those with chronic illness. Elk Point 4-H Multi Club hosted a seminar on ATV safety for local youth.



NATIONAL VICTIMS OF CRIME AWARENESS WEEK

Anyone can become a victim of crime

VICTIM SERVICES ALBERTA
Review Contributor

When a crime occurs that affects you, it is comforting to know that support is available in your area.

Last year, victim service programs responded to 54,118 new cases of crime or tragedy; 45% of them involved assistance to victims of violent crimes. These valuable services are provided by the 76 individual police-based victim service programs across the province serving 126 RCMP Detachments and Municipal Police Services.

National Victims of Crime Awareness Week (Victims Week) is held each year. The goal of Victims Week is to raise awareness about issues facing victims of crime and about the services, programs and laws in place to help victims and their families. This year's Victims Week will take place April 19-25. The theme for Victims Week 2015 is "Shaping the Future Together."

The Alberta Police Based Victim Services Association (APBVSA) has partnerships with police, justice, women's shelters and the RCMP. APBSVSA president Lori Rehill says most Albertans know someone who has become a victim but, unfortunately, for every victim that comes to their local victim service program for support, hundreds suffer in silence and don't seek help.

"Behind every headline you read is a person, a family, a community affected by crime or tragedy. Operating behind the scenes is also a network of volunteers offering services, support and resources."

Rehill encourages those persons who feel they have been victimized to come forward since empathy for victims is an essential value of the association.

The Elk Point Review publishes a variety of opinions as a contribution to debate on matters of public concern. Unsigned editorials express the view of this newspaper's editorial board which includes the Publisher and the Editor. Signed pieces express the view of the individual writer.

"Despite all our efforts, some victims of crime or trauma and their families may not be fully aware of all the services and benefits they may be eligible for. Some may initially refuse services without being fully aware of the benefits to them and their healing."

With over 76 Victim Service Programs across Alberta, anyone who has become or knows someone who has become a victim of crime and tragedy is encouraged to contact his or her local victim services for information and support. In this area you can contact Elk Point & Area Victim Services Society at (780)724-3964 or go to the Alberta website at www.victimservicesalberta.com.

Fact Sheet 2013-2014:

Victim services programs reported providing services to 71,647 new clients with 85% of that total being adults and 15% being under the age of 18.

Approximately 2,895 volunteer advocates, board members and special purpose volunteers contributed a total of 161,047 volunteer hours.

During the 2013 Flood over 600 volunteer-hours were reported by some Victims Services Units. The flood resulted in evacuations of almost 100,000 people from 10,000 homes over a 55,000-square-kilometre area.

The most frequently reported type of assistance was intervention which includes crisis response, death notification of next of kin, or practical assistance at a crime scene.

Alberta reported the second highest rates of firearm-related homicides in Canada.

Alberta had the fourth highest rate of police-reported hate crimes in Canada.

Children and youth account for over half of all victims of police-reported sexual offences and the majority of persons accused of a sexual offence against a child or a youth were known to the victim.

The majority of victims of sexual violations associated with cybercrime were below 18 years of age.

Approximately 1.75 million persons aged 15 and over in Canada were victims of cyber bullying.

Elk Point Review

5022 - 49 Avenue, Elk Point, AB

Mailing Address:

Box 309, Elk Point, Alberta T0A 1A0
or Box 159, St. Paul, Alberta T0A 3A0

Publisher: Janani Whitfield

Editor: Vicki Brooker

Email Address: production@stpaul.greatwest.ca

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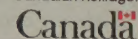
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**ADMINISTRATIVE
PROFESSIONALS WEEK**
April 19-25, 2015



Shaina, Lorraine, Tanya and Pat...

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Happy Administrative Week!**



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Mel ... "Five, Six, Seven, Eight ...
Who do we appreciate?"

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KEEP UP THE GOOD WORK!**

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Cindy.... Thank you!!

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'Little Mermaid' a very big hit with audience

VICKI BROOKER
Review Staff

Saturday evening's presentation at the Elk Point Arts and Leisure Centre had all the makings of a hit – romance, conflict, an evil protagonist and an exotic setting – but was even more of a hit because the cast included a long list of local youngsters who sang and danced their way into the hearts of the audience in the Elk Point Theatre Project presentation of 'The Little Mermaid, Jr.'

This adaptation of Hans Christian Andersen's timeless classic and the hit Disney movie saw the local cast and a number of more experienced young performers from the Vermilion Theatre Productions group working together under the direction of Cindy Millar to bring the story to life.

The show opens as a handsome Prince Eric (Shane Newberry) and his faithful servant Grimsby (Owen Atkin) are out sailing, and Grimsby reminds the prince he has only until his birthday to find a suitable wife and claim his late father's crown. The prince is distracted from his quest when he hears a beautiful voice singing in the distance, and swears he will follow that voice to the ends of the earth.

Meanwhile, far below the sea in the court of King Triton the court composer, Sebastian (Zxayven Pelech), has prepared a special song for the mersisters (Caleia Ng, Kayley Morris, Zoe Cribbins, Alexa Berlinguette, Kailey Wirsta and Lexi Wirsta) and a large group of backup singers to present to the king (Odin Smith). The king is pleased but wonders why his lovely daughter Ariel (Jorja Theriault) is not among the singers.

That could be because she and her sidekick, Flounder (Ella Ballas) are out exploring and find a strange piece of human debris, a fork that Flounder calls a dinglehoffer.

The king has long since banished the evil sea witch Ursula (Kyla Convey), who he blames for his wife's death, from the kingdom and with good cause: she is determined to steal Ariel's lovely voice and to snatch the royal powers from King Triton.

"You could have been kidnapped," he chastises the repentant Ariel when she returns home. To make sure she doesn't wander again, he assigns Sebastian to

keep an eye on her. That isn't easy – Ariel yearns to explore the world above the water, and although she and Flounder join Sebastian and his singers to sing, "Life is better Under the Sea," they sneak away at the first opportunity.



Ariel and Flounder

The prince is explaining why he doesn't want to marry a princess when a horrible storm comes up, shaking the ship and tossing him overboard. Ariel and Flounder find him in the surf and pull him ashore, where their seagull friend Scuttle (Kailey Wirsta) checks his feet for a pulse and Ariel, who says, "he's so beautiful," instantly falls in love.

Hearing Grimsby approaching, the rescuers retreat to the sea, and Grimsby doesn't believe the prince's tale of being rescued by a mermaid. "I must find her," Prince Eric insists.

Ariel floats on the rosy cloud of love, so obvious that the chorus sings about it and Sebastian shakes his head in dismay. The king is even more dismayed when

he finds that the object of her affection is a human, and forbids her to go back to the surface.

Instead, she retreats to the reef, pouring out her heart to Flounder, as Ursula's eel minions, the slithery Flotsam and Jetsam (Caleia Ng and Kayley Morris) listen in and report their findings to the evil sea witch, who quickly uses this to advantage and offers to turn Ariel into a human for the mere price of her voice. The desperate mermaid agrees and the deed is done.

It is not long before the prince finds her and concludes she has lost her voice because of being lost in the ocean. He takes her home, with Sebastian in hot pursuit but staying out of sight, and there, Chef Louis (Alexa Berlinguette) and his assistants make her delicious treats and the housekeeper, Carlotta (Lyndsey Whitstone) pampers her, as Ariel adjusts to life with legs.

If only the prince would kiss her, the spell would be broken and her voice would return, but the prince doesn't know that and she can't tell him. Sebastian advises her to bat her eyelashes at the prince, but even that doesn't work. With time running out, the prince spends his birthday interviewing six lovely potential wives, but none of them are suitable, and a discouraged Ariel runs away, back into the sea, where her father finds her and apologizes for his heavy-handed behaviour. Flounder tells the king what has happened to Ariel's voice, and the king tells Ursula he will relinquish the kingdom if only she will return Ariel's voice.

Ursula is ecstatic but soon finds the triton of power is too much for her to handle. Ariel snatches it back, returns it to her father, the prince discovers that she is indeed the one with the lovely voice, and that she is actually a princess, and everyone lives happily ever after, just as they should in every good fairy tale.

Also starring in the production were Ella Smith as the seahorse, Chloe Germain, Lexee Smith, Tallyn Gadwa, Keanyn Bourget, Aurora Smith, Ayvah Smith, Sadie Berlinguette, Mykaela Heraid, Jennifer Peterson, Jasmine Penz, Ashleigh Convey and Brittany Eyben as lagoon animals, sea creatures, gulls and merfolk. Music was provided by Amanda Millar on piano, Niko Timpano on percussion and Tanner Spencer on guitar. Lighting and sound were by Darcy Millar and Mark Sander, props by Dave and Norleen Vigen, and a special thanks was given to LoAnne Smith for her tireless efforts.

Budget

(Continued from Front Page)

Employee attraction and retention are also on the administration's list of priorities.

"The bigger we become, the more activity there is, the more administration is required," said Upham.

Emergency Management Services was added on to the budget this year, and has a budget of \$44,740. The budget has been set aside for funding of the Emergency Management Plan.

Last year, the county received a Regional Collaboration Grant for the development of the regional plan. After the plan is complete, the county will continue to share costs associated with having a director.

The county will continue to set aside some funds for doctor recruitment, which is set at \$10,000.

In the public works department, expenditures are set at over \$14.4 million, compared to \$12.8 million in the 2014 budget. Actual expenses in 2014 exceeded \$15 million, says Kitz, as a result of council approving extra oiling and other work, so while it appears to be an increase from budget-to-budget, the county is actually anticipating spending less in 2015 than it spent in 2014.

"We're saving money because the product we use has gone down in cost, due to the fluctuating cost of oil," says Upham, when speaking of roadwork.

Priorities in the public works department for 2015 will include discussions with the province on Highway 867, continuing to get road use agreements in place, and 15 miles of road construction, split throughout the county's six divisions.

The budget also takes into account engineering needed to address the

Moose Hills Road slide, capital equipment purchases, an oiling budget of \$2.8 million, a \$10,000 increase in the public works' safety budget, and paying down debt on the Murphy Road loan.

The county will continue to use cold mix for some of its projects, says Kitz, but this season lots of dust controls will be done with MG 30. It is a tenth of the cost of oil, says the CAO, and will act as a "short term dust control solution."

The county's water budget will see a large increase, as council moves forward with securing water supply to Ashmont/Lottie Lake.

"The large increase (661 per cent) in the budget reflects anticipated capital project to bring water from Spedden – a connection to the Highway 28/63 Water Commission – to Ashmont," according to budget documents.

"We are being optimistic," says Kitz, when speaking of the project. The county anticipates the Water for Life grant will cover the majority of the project costs. If the funds don't come through this year, the county is of the opinion that it would just mean a delay in the project.

"We're cautiously optimistic," said Upham, adding, "We won't be doing it unless we know we have the funding in place."

The Environmental Health budget will increase, which deals with the transfer stations located across the municipality.

The Agricultural Service Board will see an 18 per cent increase in its budget, when compared to the previous year. Priorities that fall under the Ag Service Board include the coyote/wolf reduction program, and relocation of the county's dynamite storage, as per federal regulations.

The county's recreation department

will see a 34.5 per cent increase in its budget. Among the priorities are power upgrades at Westcove campground, to be completed over three years; helping fund the new playground in Mallaig; funds for playgrounds at Floatingstone and Stoney Lake parks, exploring options for a "gathering place" in the hamlet of Lottie Lake; exploring development of overflow camping at Lac Bellevue; replacing some floating piers; and installing power stalls at Heinsburg.

The county has also decided to increase its contribution to libraries, which falls under its Culture category. The increase will bring the county closer to provincial average for its funding of libraries.

The county also passed a motion recently to contribute \$5,000 to the St. Paul and District Arts Foundation, along with waiving permit fees for work being done at the Mallaig Legion.

The 2015 budget also includes a two per cent increase in council per diems.

Decreases

The Fire Protection portion of the county's budget will see a 25 per cent decrease in its budget, after the two new fire halls built in Ashmont and Mallaig were completed in 2014.

This year, the county will help purchase equipment for fire departments in the area, such as a rapid response truck for St. Paul and a bush/rescue truck for Mallaig. The county is also working toward buying a livestock trailer to be used in case of emergencies, in partnership with the St. Paul Ag Society.

Overall, the county's sewer budget will see a decrease, although work will continue to be done in regards to a joint lagoon feasibility study, an application being made for a grant for the upgrading of the Ashmont lagoon, the installation

of two tanks at Riverview for waste water collection, and the extension of Ashmont sewer lines for three parcels of land.

The FCSS budget will remain mostly the same, with a very slight decrease. A long list of priorities are on the books for 2015, including the continuation of a number of community programs that already exist, such as Moms and Tots, Meals on Wheels, and events directed at seniors.

Debt

The county has a plan in place to reduce its debt, according to budget documents and the reeve.

The county anticipates it will pay off more than \$2.4 million of its short-term loan for the overlay on Murphy Road that was completed in 2014, much of the costs are being covered by contributions from industry. Other debenture principal payments in 2015 will total more than \$1.2 million.

Auditor's Report

Also on April 14, council approved the independent auditor's report.

"We again have a clean opinion," said Shawn Warrington with Synergy Chartered Accountants, as he presented the auditor's report to council. Although financial statements show a huge increase in revenue from the county's budget, it was a result of industry funds that weren't included in the budget, for the Murphy Road project.

"I would commend your administration and public works for getting those grants from oil companies," said Warrington. He added that the county's current debt is "proactive," and a result of large projects, which are long-term assets.

The county will be holding its Annual General Meeting on April 21 in Mallaig at the fire hall at 7 p.m.



WHERE IS THAT BEAUTIFUL VOICE COMING FROM? Prince Eric wants to know, and declares he will search to the ends of the earth to see who is singing far off across the sea.



"WHERE HAVE YOU BEEN?" King Triton demands of Ariel and Flounder, who have missed the concert arranged by Sebastian, the court composer (left). More photos, Pages 9 and 12.

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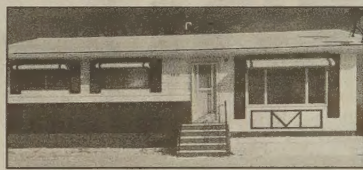


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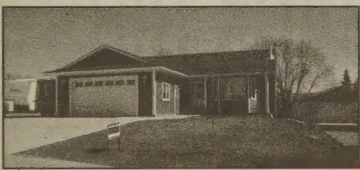


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This 1063 sq foot home comes with numerous renovations creating a complete new one bedroom suite in the basement. Rental income can assist in making mortgage payments. Situated on a large fully landscaped lot with a detached double garage, paved driveway, two garden sheds and a 12ft x 29ft newer deck. All appliances (upgraded) and window coverings are included.

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Affordable Custom built home. Open and bright living area with quality hardwood flooring, tile and vaulted ceiling. The kitchen is set with new stainless steel appliances, a large island, quality cabinets, pantry and a glass back splash. Enjoy main floor laundry, two fire places, finished on both levels, 5 bedroom, and more.

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Located at the end of a cul-de-sac on three pie shaped lots with over 90 ft of frontage is this three bedroom home with double attached garage. The park like back yard has a green house, 2 sheds, raised garden beds and a small kennel. Other features include: main floor laundry, a pellet stove in the basement and new furnace and shingles in 2012.

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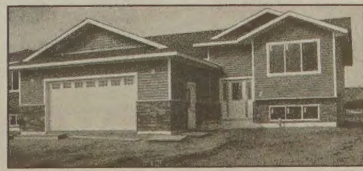


SUN COUNTRY VILLAGE

Mobile Home -- Priced for quick sale -- 14X64 mobile home -- 2 bedrooms and a 4pc bath. Open concept with bright recently painted walls, cupboards and counter top. Monthly lot lease \$300.00. Located 10KM south of St. Paul or 35 KM west of Elk Point

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5126 60 AVE

Another quality built home in Elk Point's newest residential subdivision. This 1570 sq ft home has many feature including insulated basement floor, styrofoam block foundation, large 26' X 26' heated garage with remote door opener, concrete driveway and side walk to the front door. The large kitchen has ample cabinets with granite counter tops and the dishwasher and over the range microwave.

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COUNTY OF ST. PAUL No.19



HIGHLIGHTS

April 14, 2015
Council Meeting

AGM – will be held April 21, 2015 at 7:00 p.m. in the Mallaig Fire Hall. The auditors will be in attendance to present the financial statements. Following the meeting, the statements can be picked up at the County Office or viewed on the County website.

Fire Permits – Just a reminder that Fire Permits are required for all types of open burning within the County.

Summer Hours for Landfills – Effective April 1, 2015 the Manned Landfill Sites reverted to summer hours. The **Elk Point, St. Edouard, St. Lina, Vincent Lake, and Whitney Lake** sites will be open from 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. on Tuesdays and Saturdays. **Ashmont** will be open on Tuesday, Saturday, and Sunday from 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. **Mallaig** will be open from 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. on Tuesdays and 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. on Saturdays.

2015 Budget – County Council approved the 2015 Budget for the County. This budget has Operating and Capital Revenues of \$37,046,252, Debenture and Funding from Unrestricted Surplus of \$3,335,508, Operating Expenses of \$24,044,679, Debenture repayment of \$3,754,257, Capital Expenditures of \$12,473,734 and a surplus of \$109,090. Details of the budget can be viewed on the County website.

Planning and Development – Council approved Bylaw No. 2015-05 which amends Land Use Bylaw (LUB) No. 2013-50 to include a definition for a Park Model and recreation vehicle, to address temporary accessory buildings and re-application for an amendment to the LUB and to include Stockpiling of Aggregate for Sale as a discretionary use under Agricultural and Industrial/Commercial zonings. Bylaw No. 2015-07 was also approved to allow one recreational vehicle on Lot 12, Block 1, Plan 7820473 until December 31, 2018. Council also gave second and third readings to Bylaw No. 2015-06 which amends the Municipal Development Plan (MDP) so it aligns with the LUB and the Municipal Government Act.

Council gave first reading to Bylaw No. 2015-10 to rezone 10 acres in PNE 31-57-8-W4 and Lot 1, Block 1, Plan 1120947 from Agricultural to Country Residential 1 (CR1). This will be the second parcel out of the quarter and will exceed the maximum 20 acres permitted to be subdivided, therefore it requires rezoning.

Feasibility Study for Waste Disposal – Following a joint St. Paul Transfer Station meeting, Council discussed an idea brought forward by the Town of St. Paul regarding a feasibility study that will look at different options for dealing with waste disposal for the region. The study would be partially funded and carried out by Alberta Innovates. The County passed a motion indicating that they would like to have this initiative brought forward to Evergreen Regional Waste Management Commission to support, however if the Commission did not support the initiative, that the Council support 50% of the municipal cost of the feasibility study. The total municipal cost of the project at this point is \$10,000.

Crime Reduction Strategy – Following a presentation by St. Paul RCMP Staff Sergeant Lee Brachman, the County will be hosting a meeting of stakeholders to discuss the idea of a Crime Reduction Strategy for our region.

Fire - Council approved a Mutual Fire Aid Agreement with the Smoky Lake County. The Agreement formalizes the rights and obligations to provide fire suppression services between the municipalities.

FCSS – The FCSS Department brought Tiffany Dowhan to present her High Heels and Spurs Self Esteem Program to five schools in the County. The program which provides teens with tools and support to reach their goals was well received by the students. The FCSS department has provided income tax service to 115 residents to date.

Funding Support:

- \$1,000 each – St. Lina Sr. Dew Drop Inn, Mallaig Seniors, Heritage Lodge Auxiliary - Sr. Transportation Grant
- \$400 – Elk Point Canada Day Celebrations
- \$5,000 – St. Paul & District Arts Foundation
- \$12,000 – Heinsburg Community Club for Electrical at the Tower Site
- \$3,084 – North Saskatchewan Watershed Alliance Membership Fee

All Public Notices will be posted in the County Office and County Shop.

For more information contact
Sheila Kitz, CAO, County of St. Paul
At 780-645-3301, ext 208

50TH ANNIVERSARY SPECIAL

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Exciting conclusion for Little Mermaid

Ariel has regained her mermaid tail and her singing voice, and now she must retrieve the triton from sea witch Ursula and restore her dethroned father's powers and his kingdom, left. With King Triton back on the throne, and informed that his favourite daughter wishes to marry a prince, he gives his consent and Prince Eric claims his bride (bottom left).



ANTIQUE AUCTION

April 25, 2015 at 10:30am
at the Kryzanowski Auction Barn 1.5 mile south of Glendon, AB.

HOUSEHOLD: old tables, Medalta crocks (1/2 gallon to 5 gallon), statues, light shades, lithograph pictures, old silk pictures, belts, Bread dish and cover, jar lifter, pickle jar, butter churn, gallon pitcher, water kettle, sad irons with handles, antique iron +handle, heavy duty can opener, meat grinders, frying pans, teapots, putty jug, Silver cake server set, cups+saucers, old can, bottles, bluing, Items in original boxes (snack set, pitcher+glass sets, etc), ornaments, cookbooks, hooked rug on a gunny sack, TV in cabinet, **COLLECTIBLES:** tin signs, 1000 Hockey cards (1980+up), VHS tapes (some John Wayne), CD's, Poor boy jug, Calgary memorabilia, submarine model, post cards, UGG permit books, small JD book, marbles, 1931 shoe glasses, ash trays, shoe horns, bottle openers, ashtray +stand, UGG letter opener, Strathcona Food Banks Cook Book, 1948 cash register, shaving outfit, wood rolling pin + stand, Women's Air Force fur cap, **LAMPS:** Scottie Dog, coal oil, Beacon, handmade 1958 bottle lamp, **TOOLS:** snap-on tools stickers, **new leaf blower**, well pulleys, 5' long log saw, BA 5 gal pail, 5 gal. galvanized gas pail, 1963 Cadillac shop manual, case full of tap repair + brass fittings, **MISC:** 100 year old Sun-dial clock, old jewelry, beading, brush+mirror set, cigarette maker, boxes of miscellaneous. Other items to come in.

This is just a partial list. Subject to additions, deletions + errors. Checks or cash only.

UPCOMING AUCTIONS: May 2- Chamberland Acreage Auction 10:30am Elk Point (machinery, antiques, household, May 9- Consignment at KAS Glendon - tools, household)

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April 29 - April 30 - May 1, 2015

LIFETIME MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS

Minor Hockey celebrates successful season

VICKI BROOKER
Review Staff

A near-capacity crowd of minor hockey players, parents, siblings and coaches gathered at the Elk Point Seniors' Recreation Centre last Tuesday to celebrate the end of another very rewarding season of good games and good sportsmanship.

Elk Point Minor Hockey Association president Tim Poulin welcomed everyone to the banquet celebrating "a very good season" that involved six teams, most notably the Bantams, "an 11th-hour team that showed the Calgary boys how to play," and the Storm Peewee Girls, "the first female team in a long time, who had a big ending in Jasper."

The Atoms went to the third round of Provincials and played very tough teams in the Northeast Alberta League. The Micro Novices and Novices had both new faces and returning players learning new skills. Poulin reminded all of them to "remember how fortunate you are to be able to play. Be sure to thank your parents and coaches for all the time and effort. You're lucky."

Poulin saved a special greeting for the 2014-15 Peewee Avalanche, "a special team this year who came together and battled hard. In the provincials, they missed by one goal to get to the finals. They were considered the underdogs in the league, but the beat the undefeated Irma team and became the Tier 2 champions."

Following the banquet, each coach had the opportunity to call his team up to the stage to be introduced and to receive a year-end gift. Jacques deMoissac introduced his Micro Novice team, made up of 13 skaters who he said, "had a lot of fun this year."

James Capjack introduced the 18 Novice players, who ranged from newcomers to the sport to those with

four years of experience. They didn't join a league, but played a number of exhibition games, worked as a team and played against some Tier 2 teams during the season.

Robyn Moroziuk introduced the Atoms, with 11 of the 16 being first year players, a "pretty awesome" group who ended up third in the league. He offered special thanks to "a wonderful group of parents" who made his job easier.

Storm coach Glen Hladunevich said the girls, who come from a number of surrounding communities as well as Elk Point, were "amazing. They never gave up, and everyone is so proud of them."

All present were reminded of the upcoming fundraiser for both Elk Point Minor Hockey and Minor Ball, which celebrates Elk Point's beloved Sportsound, Doug Bassett. The event goes Saturday, May 2, and includes a silent auction. All proceeds will be split between the two associations to assist with upgrades

at the ball field and the arena. Special thanks also went out to Tyler Loughran, who served as A. G. Ross Arena caretaker this year.

Dwayne Odgaard called up the Bantams, and recalled that the team's "trials began before we even started the season. We had no manager, no coach and no goalie. It was an 11th hour decision to go ahead, when Spencer Hardcastle came forward to play goal and Lori Poitras agreed to be the manager. We had two practices before the first league game and they weren't pretty. We went to Vermilion and won 14 to 1. Our defense was rock solid and for six of our players, it was their first year in hit hockey. When there were rumblings of being moved to Tier 2, we played one of those teams. We didn't win, but we showed up real well. Then we were moved up, and finished with a 9-9-3 record." Odgaard noted that some of these kids could play at a higher level in other towns, but they chose to play here."

(Continued on Page 11)



Coach Jacques deMoissac congratulates the Micro Novice Avalanche on a great year of hockey fun.



Proud coach James Capjack enjoyed the season with the Novice Avalanche.



Robyn Moroziuk and Greg VanMaarion with the "pretty awesome" Atom A's.

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Hockey Players will be
trying for the
Stanley Cup - maybe
even play for
the TMLS??"**

Doug Bassett

Thanks Elk Point Minor Hockey!
Special thanks to our "Sportsound" Doug Bassett

**Elk Point
REVIEW**
Vicki & Mel
5022 - 49 Avenue, Elk Point, Alberta
780-724-4087



Peewee Avalanche's Danny Cardinal was the 25th annual winner of the Alex Kurash Memorial Trophy, and was congratulated by coaches Marty Bendixen and Tyson Stafford on his well-deserved achievement for the 2014-2015 season.



The Peewee Avalanche brought home the NEAHL Tier 2 champion banner.



Elk Point's first Bantam Avalanche team in several years is coached by Dwayne Odgaard and his large team of volunteers.



Elk Point also boasted a peewee female team this year, with the new evolution of the Storm coached by Glen Hladunevich and his crew.

Hockey

(Continued from Page 10)

He also commented that Elk Point is "lucky to have the refs we have here, and every town wishes they had a Doug Bassett – the brand of Elk Point hockey."

Melissa Rogal introduced the Peewee Avs on behalf

of Tyson Stafford and Marty Bendixen, with Bendixen adding comments on "a great bunch of parents and kids, and a great year. It's fun being around you."

Doug Bassett remarked on "the best turnout in a long, long time" for the banquet, and predicted that next year, Elk Point will also have a midget team. He thanked the Minor Hockey executive and referee-in-chief Brian Poitras for all their efforts, before moving

on to the highlight of the evening, the presentation of the Alex Kurash Memorial Award. This is the 25th year for this award, which goes to a peewee player who actively promotes the sport, has a positive attitude, a desire to learn, is coachable and is improving his or her hockey skills. This year's deserving recipient is Danny Cardinal, whose playing has "improved tremendously this year," Bassett said.

**Great Youths
Great Hockey
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Sebastian (Zxayven Pelech) conducts as Ariel (Jorja Theriault), Flounder (Ella Ballaas) and the sea creatures in a song praising the delights of living "Under the Sea."



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5.30p.m. Dinner & Guest Speaker
7.30p.m. Annual General meeting
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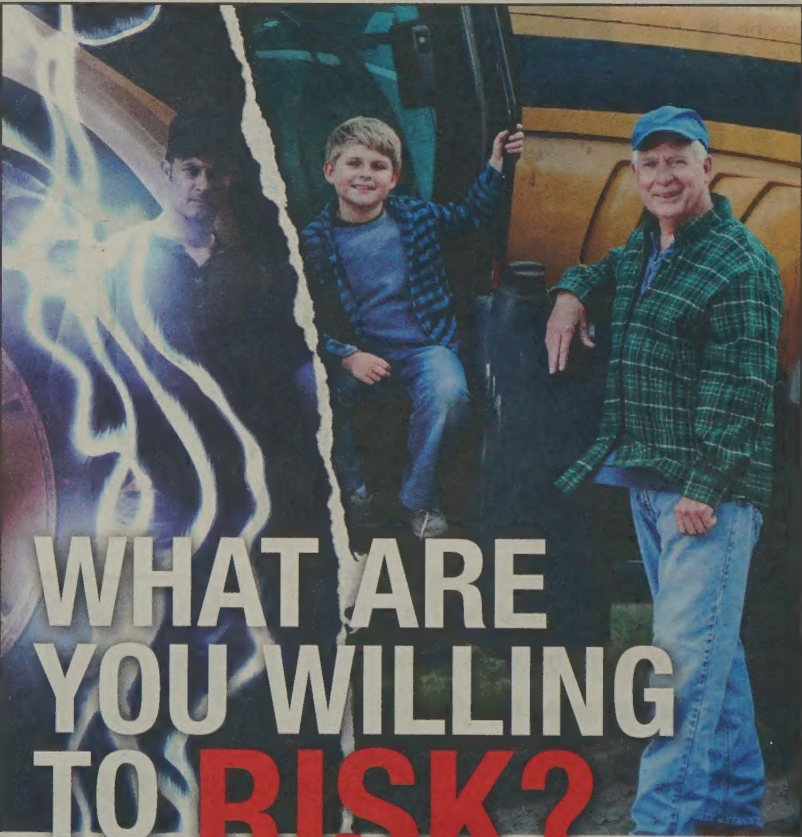
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Janice Huser photos

St. Paul Legion President Harold Lefebvre presents a cheque to Loris Kozina, manager of the Heritage Lodge, for \$1,400.

The money was raised with through the Legion's Poppy Campaign and will be used to purchase two wheelchairs.



Car show gets back on schedule

VICKI BROOKER
Review Staff

Elk Point Auto Club has just confirmed that they will be holding their annual Auto Club Show and Shine again this year. The future of the show had been uncertain due the declining number of members, but those who are left have rallied to the cause and the show will go on. Everyone mark your calendars for Saturday, June 6 and get ready to enjoy the fun!

Legion donates

St. Paul Legion President Harold Lefebvre presents a cheque to Bernice Capjack, president of Elk Point Healthcare Auxiliary, for \$800. The money will be used to purchase bedside tables and was raised through the Legion's Poppy Campaign.

Library news

Elk Point Municipal Library is hosting a needle craft session every Tuesday at 2 p.m. Join us there for some help, to work on projects or just to enjoy a cup of coffee. Another event happening at the library is our Library Tea on Wednesday, May 13th.

Last but not least we would like to announce that Ancestry.ca is free at the library! Be sure to take advantage of this FREE resource available only in the library. Discover your ancestors with one of the largest family his-

tory websites. You have access to census records, newspapers, immigration, passenger records, obituaries, etc. More records are being added all the time. Be sure to come check out the library for all of our upcoming events and more.

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WHITE, Liz
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SPERD, community join to craft vision

QUINTON AMUNDSON
Review Contributor

The last time the St. Paul Education Regional Division (SPERD) No.1 formulated its mission statement, vision statement and its value/belief statements was in 1995 when the division was first amalgamated.

Rhonda LaFrance, the vice chair of SPERD's board of trustees, says the desire to craft new statements is to really affirm the division's student first approach.

"People really thought 'okay, we don't even have the word student in our mission statement, so we really need to relook at this,'" she says. "That is what happened on Monday."

There were 65 people that came together at the St. Paul Centennial Senior Citizens' Centre on April 13 to provide input on what a new mission statement, vision statement and value/belief statements should look like. There was representation from the student and staff in the division's schools, parents, community groups and municipal leaders.

Small group and plenary group discussions were held throughout the day on mission statements, vision statements and value/belief statements. Facilitating the discussions was Terry Gunderson, an education consultant with the Alberta School Boards Association, who has led events of this nature many times over the year throughout the province.

He began the day by leading a discussion on the importance of foundational statements.

"I talked about how valuable a mission statement and vision statement is, as well as how important it is to have value statements," says Gunderson. "I did provide some materials as to what other divisions have done but I did not try to determine what their statements should say. It is up to the community to determine what the statements should look like."

Attendees at this daylong session characterized the talks as engaging and productive.

"The day was excellently facilitated," says Oralee Williams, St. Paul's FCSS director. "There was great engagement from the community and I felt very comfortable with sharing my views on the topics discussed."

"There were very rich discussions," says LaFrance. "We talked about putting students first, inclusion in our schools, maintaining our unique identity and having every one of our students succeed."

A day later, SPERD's central office staff, superintendent's staff and board of trustees went through the feedback and proceeded to formulate draft statements. The statements will be distributed through the division schools so additional feedback can be received.

The goal is to finalize statements by the end of June.

Increased participation at SPAA badminton championships

QUINTON AMUNDSON
Review Contributor

A total of 162 athletes from 12 schools participated in the annual St. Paul Athletics Association (SPAA) senior high badminton championships, which were hosted at the St. Paul Regional High School last Wednesday. This represents a 20 per cent increase from the 128 athletes that competed in the 2014 championships.

"It was nice to see that increase in participation," says Hank Smid, the president of SPAA, and athletic director at Regional.

"St. Paul Regional High School won two banners and Glendon won one banner so the parity was pretty good." Smid says usually St. Paul Regional School wins all three banners at this event.

But this year, Regional High School won the boys and mixed banners while Glendon captured the

girls' banner. Glendon's victory was extremely tight as it captured 54 total points in the girls' competition compared to 51 for St. Paul.

The primary reason for the participation increase in the tournament is a ruling by the Alberta School's Athletic Association (ASAA) to allow each of the nine zones to send 48 students to provincials instead of 30. This rule allows for districts to send more athletes to the zones.

There will be a total of 48 badminton players moving on from SPAA to take part in the zone championships being hosted in Lloydminster on April 22. Twenty-one of those athletes come from St. Paul Regional High School; Glendon is sending nine athletes; seven players from both Mallaig and Two Hills; FG Miller will send two athletes while both and New Myrnam School and Kehewin High School will send one athlete to

zones.

The winners of zones will participate in the badminton provincials, held in Lloydminster from May 1 and 2.

The 48 athletes representing SPAA on April 22 are as follows:

Girls Singles

Junior: Courtney Hebert (St. Paul) and Savannah Toma (Two Hills)

Intermediate: Raylene Allen (St. Paul) and Brooke McOuat (Glendon)

Senior: Jacqueline Janz (Glendon) and Regen Debusshere (Glendon)

Boys Singles

Junior: Brett Seguin (Mallaig) and Darius Howanyk (Myrnam)

Intermediate: Keaton Zentner (Glendon) and Roycee Buffalo (Kehewin)

Senior: Kohl McOuat (Glendon) and Yoonsung Heo (St. Paul)

Girls Doubles

Junior Pair 1: Sammy Weinmeier and Brooke Corbiere (Mallaig)

(Continued on Page 15)

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RETIRING DISTRICT DEPUTY Bernadette Godlein and her predecessor, Shirley Humble, were presented with their Past District Deputy pins by Myrnam Royal Purple president Colleen McKenzie.

Myrnam Royal Purple hosts District

VICKI BROOKER
Review Staff

Members of six Royal Purple lodges from District 8 and the Alberta Royal Purple Association past president and her fellow members from an Edmonton lodge gathered in Myrnam on Saturday for the annual District 8 Meeting.

Myrnam Mayor Ed Sosnowski welcomed the visitors and said the Royal Purple is "an integral part of our community, angels in white and purple." Regarding the past year's changes from an auxiliary of the BPO Elks to an independent organization, he added, "You have been given

the opportunity to shape something new."

Outgoing District Deputy Bernadette Godlein also spoke to that issue in her report, saying, "We did the best we could. It's going to be what it's going to be." Giving special thanks to the Elk Point lodge's secretary Verna Lazicki, Godlein said of the transition, "It was not pretty at times. She kept me on an even keel."

Past provincial president Joan Turner read a message from her successor, Brenda Johnson, expressing hope that "in the new year, things will settle down, with not so many changes. The provincial association and the lodges have been frustrated, and I thank you all for your patience." Johnson noted that some lodges are the only ones left in their district, since others either surrendered their charters, became Royal Purple Elks lodges or their members opted to join the Elks. She said that some years ago there had been talk of making the districts larger, which "caused upheaval" at the time, and "we will know more after the national convention." At the provincial level, she will do what she can to assist the district deputies, she added.

Johnson asked in her letter for each lodge to

send at least one voting delegate to the provincial convention in Medicine Hat, and to assist the Alberta Royal Purple Association by selling their raffle tickets. The association will start promoting a charity, and are considering Camp Kindle, a camp for children with cancer that is located near Water Valley, AB, as their charity of choice.

Thanking the members for joining the new Royal Purple of Canada, Johnson closed by saying, "We will succeed because anything is possible if we believe."

Past District Deputy Shirley Humble and Godlein were both presented with Past District Deputy pins; Humble's a belated gift that was not available at the time of last year's District Meeting.



Retiring District Deputy Bernadette Godlein and her successor, Barbara Schmidt.

Barbara Schmidt of Vermilion, who was elected by acclamation, will succeed Godlein as District Deputy. The Vermilion lodge performed the District Deputy drill in her honour.

"I have known most of you for many years," Schmidt told the assembled members, noting that she has been a Royal Purple member for 47 years, "and I told my lodge there is no way we are going to quit before I get my 50-year pin." Nationally and provincially, she feels "things are getting straightened out, and as women of Alberta, we know how to adjust." She is on the Alberta Royal Purple executive as Inner Guard, noted that only five districts are having a district meeting this year, out of what once were 19 districts in the province, and there are 32 lodges, down from 72 at one time. "But we are perennial people, and we will last. Try to keep up with regalia and ritual," she urged.

The Vegreville lodge performed the Draping of the Charter earlier in the meeting, in memory of their late member Olga Stewart, while the Elk Point lodge led the Sunshine March. Other lodges present included Mannville and Lloydminster.

COUNTY OF ST. PAUL NO. 19 AGRICULTURAL SERVICE BOARD 2015 ROADSIDE SPRAYING PROGRAM



The County of St. Paul No. 19 Agricultural Service Board will be starting their 2015 Roadside Spraying Program in the month of May. This program is in place to control the spread of Weeds and Brush along Municipal Road Allowances in accordance with the Weed Control Act.

Landowners concerned about Pesticide Spraying along Municipal Road Allowances must sign a "No Spray Policy Agreement," with the County and post the areas they do not want sprayed by May 1st. It will be the Landowner's responsibility to control all the weeds and brush within that posted area by July 1, 2015 or the County may intervene with control measures.

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